

BUILDING OF THE RIVER DES PERES  
SLUICeway PROGRESSING RAPIDLY.

Sluiceway which is being constructed to divert the course of the River des Peres on the World's Fair site. The large ditch in the middle of the picture, leading up to the river, is to be bricked, cemented and covered, to form a subterranean channel.

With the beginning of the present week, work on the World's Fair site will begin in earnest. Activity will become general from the eastern boundary of the site to the Skinker road. The force of workmen will be greatly augmented, and 100 teams are to be employed. As the work progresses, the number of men and teams will be increased.

This morning work will begin on the Varied Industries building, which is the first of the great exhibit buildings to get under way. At first operations will be confined to the driving of piling for the foundation. This work will require the employment of a large force of men, both in the actual operations and in handling material. The work will be in charge of Contractor Bontecourt.

In spite of the cold weather, work on the new channel for the River des Peres has been pushed rapidly forward. More than 100 yards of the channel proper have been excavated, and the slusher box at the bottom, which is to be of brick and cement, and is to carry off the water in ordinary times, is well under way. Until the new channel is completed, the stream will continue to run through its crooked course along the foot of Art Hill.

Tons of lumber, brick and other building materials are being unloaded on the site daily. Several hundred men and teams have arrived in St. Louis and are awaiting their turn to be hauled to the Fair grounds. Every preparation is being made by the various railroads reaching the site.

to accommodate the traffic. The terminus of the Colorado road will be extended at the northwest corner of the grounds next week.

Director of Works Taylor says that from now on activity on the grounds will be great. Hundreds of laborers are to be employed, and work pushed forward on every section of the ground where it is possible. In the near future that section of the site on which operations are being conducted on a large scale, will be lighted with large arc lights, and night shifts will be run. Medical Director Laidley is in charge of the sanitary arrangements on the grounds. Every laborer who is employed is obliged to submit to vaccination before he is assigned to work. Doctor Laidley says it is of the first importance that the men be kept in good health. He makes daily inspections of sanitary accommodations of the site, and presents his suggestions in the form of a report to the Director of Works.

The cord wood, all that remains of the great mounds of the forest which formerly adorned the World's Fair site, are being gathered in and stacked into huge piles containing thousands of cords. This wood will be used for fuel for the machines driving temporary machinery on the grounds. That which is left over will be sold.

SPECIAL MEETING  
OF DIRECTORS TO-DAY.

A call has been issued by President D. H. Francis for a special meeting of the Board of Directors at the Noonday Club

at 2:30 o'clock this afternoon. The purpose of the meeting is to issue the call for the payment of 20 per cent on the stock subscriptions. This will be the third assessment on the stock, the first having been for 10 per cent and the second for 20 per cent.

At the last meeting of the Board of Directors, Treasurer William H. Thompson reported that the stockholders had paid on the first call \$483,672.33, and on the second \$52,996.90, making a total of \$536,669.23. The entire amount due on both calls is \$1,000,000. The balance due on the first two assessments is therefore \$463,330.77. The World's Fair company urges upon all delinquents the importance of paying up without delay.

On the 4th of March the directors elected to serve on the board for one year will have completed their term. On that day an election will be held to fill their places. Of the thirty-one directors elected for one year, three have died—George A. Madill, Peter A. O'Neill and Geo. A. Baker. The others are William H. Thompson, James L. Blair, A. Allen, Adolphus Busch, John D. Davis, L. D. Dwyer, Howard Elliott, August Gehner, B. Jones, William J. Kemp, C. F. Meyer, Julius Schotten, R. H. Stockton, J. J. Wertheimer, George M. Wright, F. W. Lehmann, D. M. Houser, Seth W. Cobb, A. N. De Mend, Harrison I. Drummond, A. H. Frederick, C. H. Huttig, William H. Lee, W. F. Nolker, Jonathan Rice, H. W. Steinhilber, J. J. Turner and W. H. Woodward. Of these, eight are chairmen of committees. The election will be held in the offices of the company in the Lucile building.

HUSBAND ASSAULTED  
HIS WIFE IN CHURCH.

Frank Moss Then Snatched His Infant From Its Mother and Fled.

## SCENE AT LENTEN SERVICES.

Father Was Arrested After a Struggle in a Saloon Whither He Had Taken the Child.

Lenten evening services at St. Lawrence O'Toole's Catholic Church, corner of Fourteenth and O'Fallon streets, were rudely interrupted last night by Frank Moss, who, armed with a knife, snatched into the sacred edifice and struck his wife, who was at worship, accompanied by her 3-year-old daughter. Moss then seized the child from its mother's arms and rushed from the church. He took the tot to a nearby saloon, and, perching her upon the bar, said he would kill the first man who tried to take her from him.

For nearly two hours he kept the child in the saloon among his rough companions, until Sergeant Dowdall, with Patrolmen Moran and Simcox of the Fourth District, who learned of the affair, entered the place, and after a struggle overpowered Moss and restored the child to its mother.

It was shortly after 8 o'clock when Moss entered the church. The priest, accompanied by a procession of altar boys, was celebrating the service of the stations. The procession was moving slowly through the aisle when a muffled scream startled the congregation.

Several members started to their feet. The priest stopped in his holy office. In a pew in the center aisle, Moss was seen struggling with his wife to obtain possession of the child, which was clinging tightly to its mother.

Two of the male members of the congregation started to interfere, when the crowd man tore the child from its mother and with an oath fled from the church. The two men followed, but Moss had disappeared and it was some time before he was located. After the services had been concluded, Mrs. Moss notified the police, which resulted in the arrest of her husband.

Moss has the reputation among his neighbors and the police of being a quarrelsome man. He has been arrested several times for beating his wife, having recently been released from the Workhouse, where he had been sent for striking her with a poker. The couple live at No. 129 O'Fallon street.

The child is a pretty tot, hardly 3 years old. The police say when they entered the saloon she was seated on the bar, surrounded by a group of men to whom Moss was boasting of his prowess in taking the child from his mother. When he perceived the officers he seized the child and fled them to take her, so strenuously did he oppose them that it took their combined efforts to subdue him.

Both burglaries were committed between the hours of 6 and 8 o'clock, while the families were at dinner. The burglars secured an entrance to the houses by scaling the pillars of the porch, and then entered the upstairs apartments through the windows. The dresser drawers were ransacked and all the jewelry available was purloined. The intruders made their escape by sliding down the porch pillars.

Chief of Police Kiely is confident that the robbers were committed by the same gang that has been working in the East. Chief Kiely and a corps of detectives were working on the robberies all day yesterday.

"This gang started from Washington early in December," said Chief Kiely. "I got circulars from them showing where they had made several rich hauls. Then I heard from them in Cleveland, next in Columbus, then in Cincinnati, Louisville and Indianapolis. At the time the circulars stated that they were working West. Several weeks ago I issued a special order for all detectives and officers to be on the alert for them. As soon as I heard of the Averill robbery, I made up my mind the gang had arrived here, and I detailed special officers and detectives to guard the neighborhood. The thieves evaded the officers by operating the second night some distance from the Averill residence. I think the robbers made the biggest haul on their trip in St. Louis."

The robbery of the Greenwood residence is one of the largest that has been perpetrated in St. Louis for some time. Mr. Greenwood is in the real estate business with offices in the Wainwright building. Jewelry valued at \$2,500, belonging to Miss Anna Lee Bliss of New York City, a niece of Mr. Greenwood, who is visiting at the residence, was stolen. Miss Bliss is a daughter of former United States District Attorney Bliss.

Looked a Jeweled Chain. One of the costliest jewels belonging to Miss Bliss was a jeweled chain, four yards long, valued at \$1,200. The jewels were purchased in foreign countries. A diamond pendant, valued at \$50; a chain bracelet containing a pearl necklace, clasped with diamonds, and a diamond ring valued at \$50, were other treasured jewels belonging to Miss Bliss.

A gold ring in the shape of two hands clasped, holding a rose and a diamond in a silver cup on a wreath, was stolen from Mrs. Greenwood's apartments. This was highly prized, as it was an heirloom, having been made in the sixteenth century. From Mrs. Greenwood was also stolen other jewelry valued at \$100.

Fifty dollars was also taken in front of the savings bank belonging to the children of Mr. and Mrs. Greenwood. The robbery was not discovered until after 7 o'clock, when the family went upstairs after dinner. An investigation revealed that four bedrooms had been invaded. Every dresser drawer had been ransacked and everything of value taken save a few rings which the robbers had dropped on the floor. They were of small value. Burned matches were found strewn about the floor.

Mr. Greenwood is of the opinion that the burglars were frightened away by the ringing of the telephone bell. He said that when the family repaired to the library after dinner the telephone bell rang.

Mr. Greenwood discovered the marks of dirty hands on the white pillars of the porch and also saw shoe prints on the top of the porch and in the snow on the ground. Mrs. Charles Cuthbert of No. 325 Barmore avenue saw two men stop in front of Mr. Greenwood's house about 6:30 o'clock. She was passing by at the time.

The residence of Mrs. Averill was entered while the family were at supper. The thieves got two watches and several other smaller pieces of jewelry.

PORCH CLIMBERS  
MAKE RICH HAUL.

Jewelry Valued at More Than \$3,000 Taken Saturday Night From Moses Greenwood's Home.

## STOLEN PROPERTY NOT FOUND.

Chief Kiely Says the Same Thieves Have Been in Operation for Several Months in Eastern Cities.

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R. M. SNYDER WILL RETURN  
TO FACE BRIBERY CHARGE.

Kansas City Promoter Left New York for This City Yesterday When He Learned That a Warrant Had Been Issued Against Him in Connection With the Central Traction Scandal.

## MEPHAM, WANTED AS A WITNESS. STILL REPORTED OUT OF CITY

Former Kansas City promoter, is returning to St. Louis from New York to face bribery charge against him in a Grand Jury indictment.



R. M. SNYDER.

Robert M. Snyder, the Kansas City promoter who was one of the prominent figures in the Central Traction deal, is on his way here from New York to stand trial on a charge of bribery. Circuit Attorney Folk last night received a telegram from H. Wollman, Snyder's attorney in New York, informing him that Snyder had left New York yesterday and will arrive in St. Louis late to-night or early to-morrow morning.

A special dispatch to The Republic from New York last night says that Attorney Henry Wollman, in speaking of the indictment of his client, said that Snyder had no fear of meeting his accusers.

"I telegraphed Circuit Attorney Folk, in St. Louis, to-day," said Mr. Wollman, "that my client would leave immediately to answer the charge. The message I sent read as follows: 'J. W. Folk, Circuit Attorney, St. Louis: The morning newspapers state that you have an indictment against my client, Mr. R. M. Snyder. He leaves for St. Louis to-day, and will be there to-morrow night or Tuesday morning to furnish bonds. Please acknowledge receipt of this message by wire.'"

"To-night I received the following from 'St. Louis': H. Wollman, Wainwright-Asst. Secy, New York—Message received. 'J. W. Folk, Circuit Attorney.' 'Mr. Snyder will furnish bonds in any amount,' said Mr. Wollman, 'and is anxious to meet the charges brought against him.'"

A dispatch received by The Republic last night from Kansas City says that Snyder's son said in reference to the statement that Snyder had acquired a legal residence in New York within the last three years: "Father has been away from Kansas City in recent years, but always only temporarily. His fixed abode was in Kansas City. He voted there when he voted at all. He had no intention of making his home elsewhere than in Missouri. Kansas City was his home to all intents and purposes."

HOW GRAND JURY OBTAINED THE EVIDENCE.

The information on which the Grand Jury asked for the bribery warrant against Snyder was not furnished by any one individual witness. The Grand Jury had little trouble in securing from more than a dozen witnesses all the information it required to establish the "corpus delicti," and this testimony would be competent evidence against not only Snyder, but a dozen of his accomplices, as witnesses these persons could be made to stick against them. Unfortunately, Snyder is only one of the three men against whom the statute of limitations has expired. Snyder, it is believed, cannot be raised to bar criminal prosecution, as he is one of the three non-residents of the State.

Important evidence was secured by the Grand Jury in its inspection of the records of the Continental National Bank last week, and especially of the record of the deposit of \$145,000 made by Snyder to Cashier A. J. Lewis, as trustee in trust. The Grand Jury learned by this inspection, who deposited the money, and the identity of the persons for whom it was held in trust. As the Grand Jury had already examined as witnesses these persons for whom the money was held in trust, and they had told that body the circumstances and agreement under which they were to obtain possession of the money, this was a material point which the Grand Jury wished to establish—the identity of the person who had deposited the \$145,000, the circumstances under which the deposit was made, and the agreement by which it was to be turned over by the trustee in escrow to the other parties to the agreement. When this was learned, the Grand Jury was satisfied that the money had been deposited as a bribe, and Snyder's alleged participation in the bribery was thereby established.

Edgar A. Meapham is still absent from the city, according to the best information in possession of the Sheriff's office. A call at his residence, No. 3925 Iowa avenue, late yesterday afternoon, elicited the response that Meapham was not at home, was not in the city, and that his intentions in regard to appearing before the Grand Jury as a witness were not known to those in the house.

As the date for the trials of the men indicted for perjury and bribery in connection with the Suburban case draws near there is much talk of the fallacy of depending on the ground that, as the case under investigation was outwitted, the Grand Jury had no power to compel him to testify concerning his knowledge of or participation in the alleged offense. To meet this contention other lawyers argue that so long as one of the parties to the bribery is still amenable to criminal prosecution, the case is a proper

POLICEMAN RESCUES  
THREE FROM FIRE.

Patrolman Biggio Carries Two Women and a Child From Burning Tenement.

## ENTERS BUILDING THREE TIMES

Occupants Sleeping When Fire Started and Almost Overcome by Smoke—Has Narrow Escape From Injury.

By the bravery of Patrolman Joseph Biggio of the Fourth District, two women and a child were saved from death in a tenement house fire early yesterday morning. The officer entered the burning building three times and literally dragged the occupants from their burning beds, carrying them in his arms through the smoke and flames to safety.

One of the women, Mrs. Annie Kelly, 70 years old, was locked in her room asleep, and would have undoubtedly perished had it not been for the officer, who broke open the door and grabbed her from the bed, which was already in flames, and carried her to the street.

As he reached the pavement with his burden he heard the muffled screams of a woman from a room on the second floor. Hastily giving Mrs. Kelly in charge of a bystander he plunged again into the burning house and found Mrs. Ellen Callahan and her 15-year-old daughter, Lena, in a rear room almost overcome by smoke. Seizing upon each hand he literally dragged them down the stairway.

When he reached the street the second time he heard Mrs. Kelly crying that a sum of money, the savings of years, was in the burning house. Followed by a fireman, who had by this time responded, the officer entered the house, now almost a mass of flames, and succeeded in saving the aged woman's trunk. The rest of the furnishings of both apartments were totally destroyed.

Patrolman Biggio, while patrolling his beat along Franklin avenue shortly after 1 o'clock, he noticed smoke issuing from the upper windows of No. 200. Running to the corner of Twenty-first street he sounded an alarm of fire and returned to the house. The smoke was increasing in volume. He kicked at the lower door to arouse the occupants, but receiving no response, threw his weight against and forced it open. He ran up the stairs, and, as he reached the upper landing, saw the red glare of flames through the transom of one of the rooms.

This door, too, was locked. With a shout of fire, Biggio burst open the door. The carpet and furniture was ablaze. By the light of the flames he saw Mrs. Kelly in a bed in the corner of the room in a deep sleep. He shook the aged woman, but could not awaken her.

By this time the smoke was stifling. Another fire on one of the covers, he threw it over the woman and gathering her in his arms started for the street. It was as he reached the street door that he heard the cries of Mrs. Callahan, who, with her child, occupied the adjoining apartment, and returned to the rescue. When he reached the room the mother and child

## THIS OFFICER SAVED THREE LIVES.

BRITISH FORCE LED  
INTO A BOER TRAP.

Two Officers and Ten Men Killed and Forty Wounded Before Retreat Is Possible.

Pretoria, Feb. 16.—One hundred and fifty mounted infantrymen, while patrolling the Klip River, south of Johannesburg, February 12, surrounded a farmhouse, where they suspected Boers were in hiding.

A single Boer broke away from the house and the British started to pursue him. The Boer climbed a kopje, the British following.

Immediately a heavy fire was opened upon them. The British found themselves in a trap and in a position where they were unable to make any defence.

Eight of the British officers made a gallant effort and defended the ridge with carbines and revolvers until they were overpowered.

The British had two officers and ten men killed and several officers and forty men wounded before the force was able to fall back under a cover of a blockhouse.

London, Feb. 16.—Lord Kitchener, in addition to reporting the Klip River affair, says: "A party from the South African constabulary line, on the Waterval River, February 10, encountered a superior force of the enemy near Vantondersbek and was driven back, with loss."

OPENINGS IN A MOUNTAIN  
TERRIFY A MEXICAN TOWN.

Earthquake Adds to People's Fear—Smoke Issues From Pinnacles Near Chilpancingo.

Chilpancingo, State of Guerrero, Mexico, Feb. 16.—Great alarm still prevails here on the discovery of seven small openings in the mountain between this city and Chilpancingo, from which smoke is issuing, it being feared that the city is in danger of a great peril than that recently experienced.

The terror of the inhabitants was added to by an earthquake, which occurred between 1 and 2 o'clock this morning, which was severe enough to wake the entire city from slumber.

VICTIMS NUMBER THOUSANDS.

Many Towns Suffer Severely in Transcaucasian Earthquake.

Berlin, Feb. 16.—It is reported here from Baku, Transcaucasia, that thousands of persons were killed by the earthquake in the Shamakha district, and that the towns and villages for fifteen miles around Shamakha suffered severely.

INDIANS AND LIBERALS  
ATTACK GENERAL CASTRO.

Entire Force of Colombian Insurgents Bitten, According to an Escaped Prisoner.

Panama, Colombia, Feb. 16.—A Government soldier, who was a prisoner in the camp of the Liberal General Herrera, made his escape and arrived here yesterday.

He reports that last week an Indian chief named Lorenzo attacked the Government forces under the command of General Castro at Agua Dulce and was defeated.

Reinforced by 800 men sent by General Herrera, Lorenzo made another attack on Castro's forces, and was again repulsed.

The Government gunboat steamed from the Nicarauguan gulf at Momotombo, which is believed to be bringing coal, provisions and ammunition to the Liberals.

PLAINTIFF ALSO A DEFENDANT.

Tangle of Alienation Damage Suits at Carthage, Mo.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

Carthage, Mo., Feb. 16.—Edwin Price of this city has filed suit against George Sheldon of this city on a charge of alienating his wife's affections.

Last evening Price was served with paper making him a defendant in a suit for \$3,000, alleging similar grounds for damages. The plaintiff in the last suit is Charles R. Higgins of this city. All parties are prominent in this city.

QUEEN REGENT WILL SIGN  
FRIENDSHIP TREATY TO-DAY.

Removal of Last Vestige of War With United States—Weyler Urges Army Reduction.

Madrid, Feb. 16.—The Queen Regent will sign the treaty of friendship with the United States to-morrow.

General Weyler, the Minister of War, will submit to the Cortes a proposal to reduce the Spanish Army by four army corps.

LEADING TOPICS  
—IN—  
TO-DAY'S REPUBLIC.

THE SUN RISES THIS MORNING AT 6:50 AND SETS THIS EVENING AT 5:28. THE MOON SETS TO-MORROW MORNING AT 3:33.

Missouri—Partly cloudy Monday; warmer in west. Tuesday, fair in east; rain in west.  
Illinois—Fair Monday and Tuesday.  
Arkansas—Fair Monday; warmer in east. Tuesday, fair.  
East Texas—Monday, fair. Tuesday, unsettled.  
West Texas—Fair Monday and Tuesday.

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1. Porch Climbers Make Rich Haul.
  2. R. M. Snyder to Face Bribery Charge.
  3. Two Marriages in Colorado Enough for Platt Family.
  4. May Revolutionize Surgery.
  5. Dances and Mason Form an Alliance.
  6. Medal Awards Are Held Up.
  7. Statistics Shown in Attractive Way.
  8. Favorable Report on Pacific Cable.
  9. News and Gossip of the Pugilists.
  10. Starring Scenes at Football Game.
  11. Race Entries.
  12. Bowling.
  13. Schwab Returns From European Tour.
  14. Violent Language in Labor Meeting.
  15. Will England Call Pauncetote Home.
  16. Prince Makes Stop at Southampton.
  17. Editorial.
  18. Dramatic News.
  19. How Wheeler Broke the Monotony of the House.
  20. Up-to-date King of Wonderful Land.
  21. Railroad News.
  22. Sermons and Services at the Churches.
  23. Grains Close Higher on Outside Demand.
  24. Live Stock Market.
  25. Poultry.
  26. River News.
  27. Republic "Want" Advertisements.
  28. Republic "Want" Advertisements.
  29. Lead and Zinc Report.
  30. Single Human Hair May Clear Mystery.
  31. Public Still Holds Afloat From Market.
  32. Active Merchant in Alton Is 92 Years Old.
  33. Hotel Projects for World's Fair.
  34. Wireless Messages Are Badly Tangled.
  35. Coroner Was Notified of Lipscomb's Death.